

1AD, Hungarian brigade team up for Delta 2001

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HAJMASKER, Hungary – With Apache helicopters soaring through the sky above and Bradley Fighting Vehicles thundering over the battlefield, 1st Armored Division soldiers joined their counterparts from the Hungarian 25th Mechanized Brigade to conduct the Delta 2001 training

exercise in early September.

The 10-day interoperability exercise trained the division and the Hungarian soldiers to work together in a variety of situations, ranging from peacekeeping missions to high-intensity conflicts.

The units executed two live-fire exercises together along with multiple rehearsals to familiarize each with the other unit's fighting capabilities and tactics.

"Delta 2001 was intended to

build upon what we have already gained from our two previous exercises together," said Col. David A. Lawrence, 4th Brigade commander. "This exercise was designed to stress interoperability and cooperation between the U.S. and Hungarian forces in an intense field environment."

The brigade served as the division's command element during the exercise. Other units were 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry

Regiment; Company C, 1st Battalion, 501st Aviation Regiment; Company B, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment; 127th Aviation Support Battalion; 47th Forward Support Battalion; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Division Support Command; 501st Forward Support Battalion; 123rd Main Support Battalion; and Company B, 141st Signal Battalion.

Delta 2001 was the third exercise in which the division and the Hungarian 25th Mechanized Brigade have trained together. The two units also trained together during Iron Dragon in 1999 in Friedburg, Germany, and ARCADE Fusion 2000 in Wildflecken, Germany.

Soldiers and commanders worked side by side with their Hungarian counterparts throughout the exercise.

"This exercise was a great building block in the foundation of our partnership with our NATO partner, the Hungarian Land Forces," said Col. Leo A. Brooks Jr., 1AD assistant division commander for maneuver. "It was also great to get our soldiers away from all of the training areas they are used to operating in back in Germany and to train in a different environment. It was a success in the way our soldiers worked and interacted with their Hungarian counterparts. As the exercise is critiqued at the various levels of the chain of command through after-action reviews, the soldiers will gain and learn even more from the experience."

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Gobs of mud splatter into the air as a 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, Bradley Fighting Vehicle rolls into battle during the second live-fire exercise at Delta 2001. The unit participated in two live-fire exercises as well as multiple rehearsals with the Hungarian 25th Mechanized Brigade.

Ducking and dodging simulated enemy fire, soldiers from 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, return to their Bradley Fighting Vehicle after performing their dismounted attack mission during the first live-fire exercise at Delta 2001.